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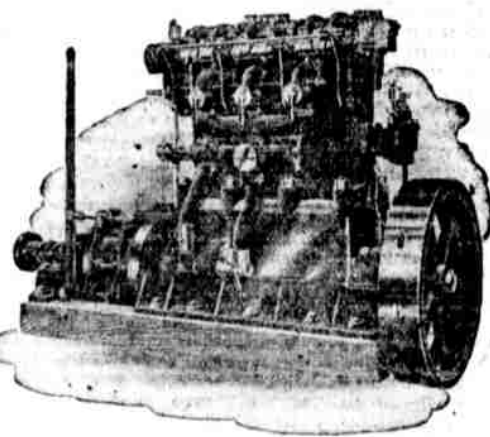
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KINDERGARTENS ARE PROSPEROUS

(Continued from Page 15.)

ized and received its charter in August 1895, holding its first annual meeting in October of that same year. Mrs. C. B. Hyde was the able president for the first seven years.

The following year a mixed kindergarten was opened in the Palama Settlement House on King street, and in 1900, all our schools became cosmopolitan after the various moves made necessary by the burning of Chinatown.

While the members of the association were busy supplying the needs of the five kindergartens from without, the teachers were equally busy building from within. Without training, with only a love for children, great faith and courage, these earnest young women worked by themselves, reading what they could find on the subject, and getting such help as they could from the few people who had visited a real kindergarten. In 1895, Miss Eastman, a trained teacher from San Francisco was secured to take charge for a year, and start a Training School in the afternoons. "It will be expensive," says the report, "but we cannot expect to do great things without great effort."

After the establishment of the Palama Kindergarten, there were many changes in the work, but no new kindergartens were started by the association until 1909, when the Kalia Kindergarten was opened in the Kalia Settlement. This period of fourteen years was a time of foundation building, when the association was busy perfecting what it had undertaken. The various schools moved away from each other to large and widely separated districts, thereby covering a much greater field.

Starting with an attendance of about thirty, the numbers in each were doubled and tripled, necessitating increase in room, more teachers, and better equipment. To fill these kindergartens with trained teachers took time, but was the first step necessary to secure a firm foundation upon which to build an efficient work.

Great changes were also taking place on the mainland in kindergarten methods, as a result of psychology, child study, and a better understanding of the real meaning of the underlying principles of Froebel's system. Faulty in his methods as he must needs have been, considering the little known of children by his generation, he was a true prophet, and we are today just beginning to understand what he meant by educative play, self-expression, unity, and the other principles he stood for. Bound by the letter of his method, as were the early followers of Froebel, it took time and distance to discover the spirit that inspired the great teacher.

The first great change made in these letter-bound bound methods, was to cut out all the fine work that could possibly injure the child's health. This took away pricking, sewing on cardboard, paper weaving, and many others. After studying Dr. Dewey we stopped putting the emphasis on number, form, size, direction and sense training, but focused on developing imagery, and found as he points out at length, that we had gained much more than we thought we were losing in making the change. The occupation schools, designed to train the eye and the finger co-ordinations, to give ideas of abstract form and a sequence of material, have given place to the making of toys, to the doing of real things as washing and ironing, cooking, setting the table for luncheon, clearing it off after the meal, washing dishes, sweeping, gardening, etc. Today we take the children to the broom factory, watch the process of making brooms, secure material, and let the children make brooms, which, although crude, can be kept in the kindergarten and used every day for a real purpose. According to the old method, we would have made useless paper brooms for the children to look at, to be thrown away later as of no worth.

One by one all the gifts had to go except the building blocks, and other play incentives have been added as dolls, doll houses, dolls furniture, trains to play horse with, balls, carts and many other things, the children making as many of these as they possibly can. These various toys are made of a great variety of materials, they are of any number of shapes, and they give in one way or another an all-round development of the senses, as well as ideas of form, number and size.

Through the imagery these toys arouse, the child in getting ideas of the society in which he lives and its relation to himself. As a member of that society he has a place to fill, a duty to perform, be it ever so small, and so he is started on the road to future usefulness.

Cleanliness of body, purity of speech, helpfulness to others, doing for oneself, are expected of the child as a matter of course. In most of our kindergartens we have a bath tub, and where the children have no accommodations for bathing at home, they can have a bath in school. We still feel that this duty of the parent, however, and it is only in extreme cases the teachers find it necessary to bath the children. Usually

one bath is all that is necessary to show the parents what is expected, and ever afterward the child comes clean. Donations of clothing have been very acceptable, and found their way to needy places.

The Palama Kindergarten.

The Palama Kindergarten has proved that it is adaptable, for it has moved three times during the year, and yet scarcely lost a day of school, although there were months when the attendance suffered considerably thereby. It is most comfortably housed at present in the Chapel where it started from. The building has been freshly painted inside and out, and a lanai has been added at the back which greatly adds to the comfort of the place. The settlement has done everything it could to make these many moves of the Kindergarten as comfortable as possible.

The large bathing tank in the gymnasium is much enjoyed by the children who bathe here every week. They wear little red bathing suits which they make themselves.

The largest average monthly attendance was last December, being 97, and the largest attendance of all was 124.

The Kalia Kindergarten.

The Kalia Kindergarten, our youngest offspring, has grown so rapidly this year that it bids fair to outgrow the room and the teaching force before long. We hear that plans are already being made for a new settlement house with more accommodations for the Kindergarten. The largest average attendance was 75. Last year it was 34. Under Miss Marie Hoefner's wise direction, the school has doubled in a surprisingly short time. We regret to report that Miss Hoefner will not be able to continue her work on account of ill health. The place is being well filled by Miss Hattie Lucas, an undergraduate. Mother's meetings have been held every two months with a good attendance.

The Kauluwela Kindergarten.

The Kauluwela Kindergarten is one of our best equipped schools. The average attendance is about 95, and the largest attendance reported was 102. Miss Alice Brown was ill last month and is away on a necessary leave of absence. Miss Gertrude Brown is substituting for her.

The Fort Street Kindergarten.

The Fort Street Kindergarten has had a quiet, prosperous year. Miss Rachel Oleson resigned last June to be married, after two years' successful work as director of this school. Miss Eoin Logan, an undergraduate, is filling the position successfully. She was assistant here for several years, so there is very little break in the running of the school.

The largest average attendance was 85.

The Miller Street Kindergarten.

The Miller street Kindergarten has had no change in its teaching force during the year. The attendance has increased considerably, the largest average attendance being 64, while last year it was 49. This used to be one of our largest schools, but the children of the neighborhood have all grown up, so the last few years the attendance has been small. As the Kindergarten is eighteen years old, it is about time for another generation to appear.

The Muriel Kindergarten.

The Kindergarten known formerly as the Kakaako Kindergarten, moved into its new building, the gift of Miss Kate Atherton, last spring, and changed its name to the Muriel Kindergarten in loving memory of the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Richards. A change in the teaching force of this school was made necessary upon the resignation of Miss Edith Fitz Gerald, who so ably filled the position for nearly two years. Miss Mary Fuller, her successor, comes with high recommendations, and is doing successful work.

The influence of Miss Dowell, who was district nurse here for a year, was a great factor for good in the locality. She was a friend and benefactor of all the poor and helpless people living there. It is with sincere regret to all that her resignation was accepted in November.

May Day.

May Day is an annual celebration now for the kindergartens. The children look forward to it with the keenest pleasure. Last year they all outdid themselves in representations dear to the infant heart. There were Indians, fairies, cowboys, brownies, and a great variety of decorations, all of which the children made, and much of it they selected themselves. The miniature parade in imitation of the floral parade February 22 was the most interesting feature of the day. The five decorated soap box carts, the fifteen bicycles ridden by little boys who took the occasion most seriously, were preceded by the other children wearing soldier caps and carrying flags. Capt. Berger and his band, as usual, played for us.

Christmas was celebrated in all the kindergartens, and it seemed as if Santa Claus was even more generous than ever. Miss Alice Cooke looked out for the Kauluwela Kindergarten, giving the children such a Christmas as they will dream of for a year. At the Muriel Kindergarten, Miss Dorothy Hartwell, Mrs. Geo. Sherman, Miss Kate Atherton and other contributed to make these little tots wonder if there was not more than one Christmas during the year. Palama was well looked out for by the committee, Mrs. Joe Gilman, Mrs. Joe Cooke, Miss Grace Cooke, Mr. P. C. Jones, Mrs. W. A. Love and others.

The other kindergartens were helped out by contributions from Mrs. H. C. Coleman, Miss Margaret Hopper, Mrs. Theodore Richards, Mrs. Ewing and others.

The Training School.

The Honolulu Free Kindergarten Training School is growing. This year we report eight regular members of the Junior class, and two special students who are taking the afternoon work without the morning practice. This class is most enthusiastic and interested and we are looking forward to great results.

The Senior class is composed of two members who will receive diplomas next June.

Last year two diplomas, one dated December, 1910, and one certificate were awarded to three young women who had successfully finished the course.

It is with sincere regret that we learned of the resignation of our president, Mrs. Theodore Richards. Her close touch with the problems of the work, her clear thinking, good judgment, and ready sympathy, have gone a long way toward making the work a success. We are glad to hear that she is still to keep her connection with the Kindergarten as chairman of one of the committees.

Today marks the close of another successful year and we look forward to the morrow with new plans and bright prospects.

Respectfully submitted,
FRANCES LAWRENCE,
Principal.

BIG CROWD FOR INSTALLATION

A prominent event in fraternal circles took place Saturday evening, January 5, at Masonic Temple, when in the presence of over one hundred persons officers for the ensuing year were installed.

The affair was a decided social success, reflecting great credit upon the entertainment committee, as follows: Sallie L. Williams, P. W. M.; Ethel M. Taylor, Della C. Riefow, Helms Helbron, Margaret F. Smith, Bertha Blom, Alexander Pratt, P. W. P., and Sumner S. Paxson.

A charming decorative scheme of red and green was carried out both in the floral embellishments of the table and the tinting of the tea and bon bons. In charge of the appointments were Emma Longstreet Rich Crabbe, P. W. M.; Anna S. Wright, P. W. M.; Ada Kershner, Annie Coyne and Edith M. Lee.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies incident to the installation, the following elaborate menu was served:

Fruit cocktail, saltines, salted almonds, olives, roast turkey and cranberry sauce, banquet rolls, cold ham, mustard pickles, potato salad, cheese straws, Neapolitan ice cream, cake, coffee, fruit, bon bons.

Toastmaster—Clarence L. Crabbe, P. W. P.

The officers for 1912 are as follows: Margaret F. Smith, worthy patron; James R. M. McLean, worthy patron; Annie Coyne, associate patron; Adelaide M. Webster, P. W. M., secretary; Amelia B. Reedy, treasurer; May E. Merrill, conductress; Caroline W. Miller, associate conductress; Ada Kershner, Ada; Hattie M. Bye, Ruth; Sallie L. Williams, P. W. M.; Esther; Edna Porter, Martha; Jeanne M. Macauley, Electa; Fannie Krause, warden; Harriet Evans, sentinel; Anna S. Wright, P. W. M., chaplain; Katherine Force, marshal; Edith M. Lee, organist. Installing officer, Emma Longstreet Rich Crabbe, P. W. M. Marshal, Sallie L. Williams, P. W. M.

MANY FRIENDS HONOR REV. AND MRS. OKUMURA

The celebration held Thursday in the Japanese church at Makiki in commemoration of the silver wedding anniversary of the Rev. and Mrs. T. Okumura was a great success. Many friends, including Japanese and others, were in attendance, and at the close of the program of the evening they extended their congratulations to the honored guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Okumura seated themselves on the pulpit and listened to the reading of congratulatory addresses prepared for the occasion. Hon. E. A. Mott-Smith was present, too, and made an address of congratulation to the Rev. Mr. Okumura for his noble and energetic work among his countrymen in Hawaii. He also congratulated Mrs. Okumura for her faithful assistance to her husband and help for those in destitute circumstances.

Miss Hashidate sang a selection which won the admiration of the audience. Her voice is very sweet.

J. A. Rath, superintendent of Palama Settlement, spoke on behalf of the Hawaiian Board, congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Okumura for their good work in the community. Dr. I. Mori presented a silver cup to the honored guests, and Y. Akai of the Yokohama Specie Bank spoke for the Japanese.

Mr. Okumura responded appropriately. Afterwards refreshments were served to the guests.

A flashlight photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Okumura and their friends was taken by Mr. Yauai.

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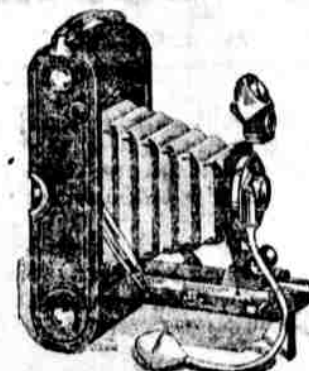
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